

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1, An ink jet apparatus for pretreating to a printing medium with treatment liquid having a function of
5 setting ink by using a first ink jet head, and for printing on said printing medium with ink by using a second ink jet head, comprising;

first recovering means for recovering an ejecting port of said first ink jet head, second recovering
10 means for recovering an ejecting port of said second ink jet head, a waste liquid absorbing substance for absorbing waste liquid discharged from said first recovering means and said second recovering means,
first waste liquid transferring means for transferring
15 the waste liquid discharged from said first recovering means into said waste liquid absorbing substance, and second waste liquid transferring means for transferring the waste liquid discharged from said second recovering means into said waste liquid
20 absorbing substance,

wherein a discharge end of said first waste liquid displacing means is located in vicinity of one end of said waste liquid absorbing substance, and a discharge end of said second waste liquid displacing means is
25 located in vicinity of other end of said waste liquid absorbing substance.

2. An ink jet apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said waste liquid absorbing substance is
formed in a U-shaped configuration, the discharge end
5 of said first waste liquid displacing means is located
in vicinity of one end of the U-shaped configuration
of said waste liquid absorbing substance, and the
discharge end of said second waste liquid displacing
means is located in vicinity of other end of the U-
10 shaped configuration of said waste liquid absorbing
substance.

3. An ink jet apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or
claim 2, wherein said treatment liquid contains a
15 cationic material composed of a low molecular weight
ingredient and a high molecular weight ingredient, and
said ink contains an anionic dye.

4. An ink jet apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or
20 claim 2, wherein said treatment liquid contains a
cationic material composed of a low molecular weight
ingredient and a high molecular weight ingredient, and
said ink contains an anionic dye or at least an
anionic compound and a pigment.

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5. An ink jet apparatus as claimed in any one of

claim 1 to claim 4, wherein said ink jet head includes as an energy generating element an eletrothermal transducer for generating thermal energy so as to allow a phenomenon of film boiling to appear in ink.

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6. A waste liquid absorbing method for an apparatus for performing a printing operation by utilizing treatment liquid having a function of setting ink as well as ink, said apparatus including a waste liquid
10 absorbing substance for absorbing said treatment liquid and said ink as waste liquid, wherein said treatment liquid and said ink are respectively absorbed in vicinity of opposite ends of said waste liquid absorbing substance.

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7. A waste liquid absorbing method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said waste liquid absorbing substance is formed in the U-shaped configuration, and said treatment liquid and said ink are absorbed in vicinity
20 of the opposite ends of said waste liquid absorbing substance.

Add A1

Add B3